

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 6, Folder 20

January 19, 1956 -
May 19, 1956

0530

Box 7
Incoming Personal, 1956

Dear Rafe. Signed Lil (Mrs. McCormick), 14 September 1956
Comment on Admiral McCormick's death

Hotel Continental, 11 October 1956, signed GWT? (George Tyson?)
Comments on hotel as "a grand old whore house!"

Eccles letter to King Hall, 21 November 1956
Comments on Suez and Strategy

Dear Rafe. Ruth Thomas, 28 November 1956
Description of life and affairs at Naval War College in
1904-1905.

Letter from Admiral Fechteler, 18 September 1956
Comment on need for leadership

Letter from McCormick to Conolly, 14 March 1956
Discussion of War College

0531

Free Union

Richard

20 Duke of Gloucester St.
Annapolis, Md.

January 19, 1956

Dear Rafe,

This is the second call on you for your check toward the support of the Coast. As long as the names of the contributors will appear in the bulletin this month may I blackmail you with the thought that, at least those on the Committee, the more pledged names we show the better.

In case you are covered with shame(?) will you do a good deed for the cause by seeing or phoning Lamont to whom I wrote a begging letter ten days ago and see if you can get a check out of him. His address is given at Bristol Ferry, R.I.

On the bright side I have received through yesterday \$3279³⁰ from 51 men 22 of whom had pledged so I feel that we should at least reach six thousand since there are 72 more (including yourself) to hear from.

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Several of the class have written that they will give more if needed and only one to date has given a decided negative to the whole idea.

So far four letters have bounced back from the post office: Cook, Hollerhide, Loveless and Wynne.

But thanks to Mackey Lewis Erkie has been located and - believe it or not - Mackey found him in Dallas where he had been "living in my shadow for three years," so maybe some of the others may turn up.

Hutch is going to get out his first bulletin in the next week or so since he now has Ted's sketches and is only waiting to find a means of duplicating them.

I hope you are having a pleasant winter.

Hostily

Rich

P.S. I've just been asked to attend a Midn evening dinner & speech making on Jan. 30th the subject being the Normandy landing. Have you any amusing or out of the way dope on it? As I remember there we heard vaguely that the German Gen's. did report to G.H.Q. something about the effect of BB gunfire can you give me anything on this?

0533



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

23 January 1956

Dear "Skipper":

Thank you for your letter of 16 January in which you inquired concerning the source of nomination to the Chief of Naval Personnel of Mr. John W. Richmond to serve as the non-educator civilian member of the Rhode Island State NROTC Selection Committee.


The people in Recruiting Division tell me that Mr. Richmond was so designated after having been nominated by the Commandant, FIRST Naval District, as an outstanding citizen from the state of Rhode Island. Each year the Chief of Naval Personnel requires that all Commandants submit the names of people whom they recommend to serve as the non-educator civilian members of NROTC State Selection Committees from each state within the various Naval Districts.

Indirectly, you may have been responsible for bringing him to the attention of the Commandant, FIRST Naval District, and therefore his ultimate designation as a member of this committee.

I was very pleased to receive your statement of opinion that he is a fine man and will do an excellent job on this assignment.

Best personal regards in which Jean joins me, I am, believe me

Sincerely,


H. A. YEAGER
Rear Admiral, USN

Commodore Richard W. Bates, USN (Ret.)
U. S. Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

0534



LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY

385 Flatbush Avenue Extension · Brooklyn 1, N. Y.

THE PRESIDENT

February 1, 1956

Dear Rafe,

It is my earnest hope that you will find it convenient to accept this invitation to Long Island University's Charter Day Dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria on March 6.

The occasion will mark a year of unprecedented progress in the development of the University as a front-rank institution, and I would be extremely pleased if you were to join with us in this celebration.

The principal speaker for the evening will be Mr. George Meany, President of the AFL-CIO, who is expected to deliver an address of major importance. Mr. Meany and Mr. William Zeckendorf, whose devoted leadership as President of the University's Board of Trustees has contributed much to the University's growth, will receive honorary degrees. I know I can assure you of a pleasant and stimulating evening.

Again, I hope we may look forward to seeing you at the Waldorf on March 6.

*Sincerely yours,
Dick*

RICHARD L. CONOLLY
Admiral, U. S. N. (Ret.)
President, Long Island University

0535



COMMANDER DESTROYER FLOTILLA SIX
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET

Newport, R.I.

3/8/56

Dear Commodore -

There are any number of fine ships in this force, and I hope there will be an increasing number of top notchers as some of the policies and practices of Adm. Burke and his successor Joe Daniel begin to bear more fruit. However, after a careful review of the list the following good numbers are probably of most interest because their ^{present} skippers should be aboard for sometime to come:

Rooks Desdiv 201

N.K. Perry (DDR 833) Desdiv 82

Hyman Desdiv 121

Wallis A. Lee (DL 4) Flagship Flot 6

Wilkinson (DL 5) Flagship Flot 2

The N.K. Perry has just returned from the Med. so should be on this Coast longer than the other Newport based ships. The Lee will go to NSY Boston for

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regular overhauls. The latter part of April
and will not be out until mid-August
due to extensive changes.

The enclosed book may be
of interest to you or the Browns.

Sincerely,

Frank

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John Bates

MAR 14 1956

Dear Dick:

Your most interesting and valuable letter concerning some of the programs and activities which you instituted at the War College is much appreciated and has received full study. Although I did not have the pleasure of receiving a direct turnover from you, I feel that the measures and plans which you left behind were so closely delineated as to have gone a considerable distance toward filling that lack of personal discussion.

As the College goes along, I feel we are also going forward in the fields both of education for the staff and students, and also in the less tangible and more nearly philosophical area of the pursuit of knowledge. As far as the students are concerned, it may interest you to know that our numbers increase slowly and steadily --- although nowhere near as fast in the Command and Staff Department as we feel the Navy needs --- and the quality, I am convinced, is high. We have been assured of the personal as well as the official backing of the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of Personnel, both of whom have on more than one occasion expressed themselves enthusiastically and emphatically on the subject. Even in these days of tight money we have been assured that the War College will not suffer.

In the somewhat more restricted areas of intellectual activity such as those you emphasize in your letter, I feel we are at least holding our own. The work which Bates is doing is of course more and more important as time goes on, and he continues to develop invaluable lessons relative to command in battle.

These studies of his are, I believe, attracting continued attention from responsible officers in Washington and at sea.

Our Advanced Study Group has been assiduously producing original work. None of it so far has been of the caliber of a Mahan, but all of it has, I think, been of value in the field of creative thinking. As a matter of possible interest to you, their major study of last year produced a somewhat similar reaction in Washington as did the Advanced Study Group study made by RAdm. Ralph Earle under you in 1951 --- it apparently startled the people in Washington and its

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circulation, in the Pentagon, was restricted.

Also in the field of creative thinking the War College produced for the Chief of Naval Operations a new set of instructions on the Law of Naval Warfare. You will remember, of course, the early "Instructions for Maritime Warfare 1917" prepared at the College, and revised here in 1942. This current revision took the work of a large number of people at the College almost a year, and represents, we believe, as good a delineation of the laws of warfare at sea and in the air as can be found today. This book has recently been published for the guidance of the Navy by the Chief of Naval Operations.

Our Research and Analysis Department has also been pulling its weight. As you suggested it is made up of a very small group of officers together with a civilian scientist. The small number of people assigned to this group is one of its virtues. I feel that it might become overburdensome for the College to attempt to support a large self-sufficient research group --- in fact it would be stepping somewhat outside the mission of the College and would be definitely supererogatory. Accordingly our Research and Analysis Department concerns itself largely with the problems of identifying areas in which research, analysis, or other development appears to be necessary both in the work of the College and (where apparent) in the growth and operations of the Navy, and then of coordinating and otherwise monitoring the work in those fields. In addition the Department is taking a leading part in the development of the concepts for the use of the Electronic Maneuver Board System and for strategic war gaming in general. Also it has been most valuable in stimulating the activities of certain agencies in Washington and in the fleet toward the solution of live problems in the field of logistics.

As another example of this type of work we have been pursuing the development of a somewhat more modern version, or study, of the philosophies underlying military decision-making than appear in our much respected old pamphlet "Sound Military Decision". Among other lines of endeavor, some of which we have been going after locally, we have arranged for the establishment of a long-term project under the Office of Naval Research to make a thorough study of military decision-making with a view not only of producing something of value for instruction purposes but also something which might possibly be worthwhile directly to agencies responsible for actual decision making.

I realize that this has been a rather discursive letter. I have written it in this fashion in the hopes of suggesting to you how much the College

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owes to your work here and that of letting you know that the guide lines which you set up have been of the utmost value to us all.

With every wish for your continued success at Long Island University and elsewhere, and with cordial regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

LYNDE McCORMICK

Admiral R. L. Conolly, USN (Ret)
President, Long Island University
385 Flatbush Avenue Extension
Brooklyn 1, New York

0540



HEADQUARTERS
FIRST NAVAL DISTRICT
NAVY BUILDING
495 SUMMER ST., BOSTON 10, MASS.

IN REPLY REFER TO:
P20-2
LND1151
Ser: 1060ND1151
9027/1103
15 MARCH 1956

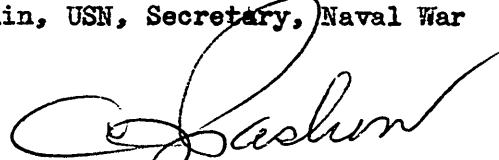
From: Commandant, FIRST Naval District
To: Commodore Richard W. BATES, USN(Ret), 9027/1103
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Subj: Official Service Recprd; Request concerning

Ref: (a) Your letter dtd 17 FEB 1956 addressed to COM12
with First Endorsement to COM1, copy to you
(b) COM1 letter of transmittal dtd 24 AUG 1955

Encl: (1) Copy of reference (b)

1. Records transferred to this Command, as indicated by reference (a), were forwarded to the President, Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, by reference (b), for inclusion in your file, and was receipted for 29 AUG 1955 by C. R. Simmers, Captain, USN, Secretary, Naval War College.


C. J. PASKOW
By direction

Copy to:
COM12

0541

2840 WOODLAND DRIVE

March 19, 1956

Dear Batesy,

You are an angel to provide me with just the information desired on the destroyer situation in Newport, and I shall hasten to turn it over to my mid.

He is now torn between two horns of a dilemma. He has been tentatively offered a good berth on a cruiser in the Mediterranean - always alluring to the young - and is engaged in trying to choose between this and a destroyer assignment in Newport. Only time will tell where he will actually land.

We have seen many old Navy friends here and shall be full of gossip when we return. Hold the fort for us and don't forget June 14 when you must help us "bring out" our ewe lamb at Harbor Court.

Again a million thanks and all our best.

Flora Brown

0543



COMMANDER DESTROYER FLOTILLA SIX
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET

U. S. S. Yellowstone
3/23/56

Dear Admiral Bates -

You were kind to write me as you did. I was touched by it. It is a bad experience to see your fellow destroyermen used so roughly.

I hope young Brown gets started in the duty he likes, and that he stay with the Navy. If he does so he will find out, as we all have that a career is full of challenging and interesting assignments demanding all that we can come up with. Everything does not hinge on the first duty assigned, provided the officer intends to deliver his best in any duty.

Sincerely, Frank

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HEADQUARTERS U. S. MARINE CORPS
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT
WASHINGTON, D. C.

12 May, 1956.

Dear Admiral Bates,

My sincerest thanks for your nice letter of 9 May and for the confidence you have expressed in my Corps and in the actions which I have been required to take. It means a great deal to me to have your support and I know that all Marines will join me in thanking you for your expression of good will.

Also, thank you for the news item which I had already seen and had anticipated. There will be some resistance in the Corps, but it will be minor, and will stem from those who are not what they should be in the first place. At least this is my conviction and I am proceeding on that premise.

With all good wishes and many thanks.

Most sincerely,

R. McC. PATE.

RAdmiral R. W. BATES, USN (Ret'd),
U. S. Naval War College,
Newport, Rhode Island.

0545

Lab. Lane
North Carolina
5/19/56

Dear Rafe:

your letter is the nicest
I have received upon retirement. Not
only from the sentiments expressed
but particularly coming from a
friend of forty three years, who has
served and loved the Navy as
I have. Am sorry you could not
have been present when I came
up against the stop. I kept the
flag flying until the last second,
and when it hit the deck my
eyes were still set for the future,
and the opportunities and responsibilities
of our modern Navy. That was
my last message to my firm.

Since retiring I have taken a

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period to relax before squaring
away on the next tack. We went
to Chapel Hill for a couple of days
to see Swede and Abby. While
Swede looks quite well he was
not quite as alert as I would
like to see him. He was going
to the hospital for a check and probably
that was on his mind.

Since then we have spent a
few days at the Belknap Forest Country
Club, made a tour of the Great
Smokies and now are at a nice
club - The Chalet Club - in the hills
back of Lake Lure and facing
Chimney Rock to the westward.

We intend to work our way
northward gradually to Washington
and then to Newport the latter

part of June. By that time
I will be ready to survey the
situation for something to do.

Kay joins me in Best
Wishes to you, and we
are looking forward to seeing
you this summer

Always your friend
Spike